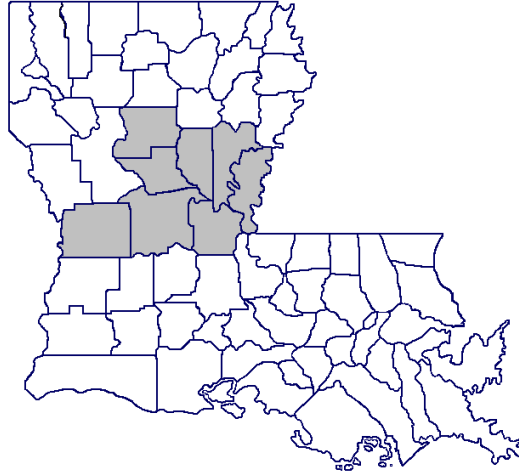


**REGIONAL LABOR MARKET AREA 6  
FIRST QUARTER 2003 EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES  
SUBJECT TO THE LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW**

Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant  
LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon, Winn



The average quarterly employment for RLMA 6 during first quarter 2003 was 97,331, a decrease of 0.9% from the fourth quarter 2002, and an increase of 0.2% from the same period in 2002. Employment increased in eight of the 20 NAICS sectors from the fourth quarter 2002. The largest percentage increase of 16.6% was in administrative and waste services.

Average quarterly employment data for first quarter 2003, fourth quarter 2002, first quarter 2002, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Average Quarterly Employment" on page 56. Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in RLMA 6 with 20,145 employees, or 20.7% of total employment. Rapides was the leading parish with 55,168 employees, or 56.7% of total employment.

Total wages increased 2.5% from the same period in 2002, and decreased 8.2% from the fourth quarter 2002, for an average weekly wage of \$477.89. Rapides parish had the highest average weekly wage of \$518.34.

Average weekly wage data for each parish in RLMA 6 is listed in the table below. The average weekly wage data for all parishes within each NAICS sector is shown in the table "Regional Labor Market Area 6" beginning on page 59.

Parish	Avg. Wkly. Wage
Avoyelles	\$ 379.43
Catahoula	364.91
Concordia	406.50
Grant	476.07
LaSalle	397.71
Rapides	518.34
Vernon	467.80
Winn	453.90

The number of reporting units in RLMA 6 for first quarter 2003 was 6,537.

Due to the conversion to NAICS, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001.

REGIONAL LABOR MARKET AREA 6  
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT

